

I am writing to you today because I am deeply disturbed by the petition the National Association of Broadcaster has before the FCC, petition number 04-160. I live in a relatively small city, EL Paso, TX. For years, I only had 1 or 2 choices when it came to "Rock" radio stations. These stations play the same, droll music 24x7. When I heard about satellite radio being launched, I immediately inquired at both XM and Sirius about their services being available in my area. When it finally became available, I immediately purchased an XM unit and have been a loyal listener for about 1 1/2 years. My entire family loves XM radio; the variety they offer has something to please any musical mood we may have. We travel frequently by car and before XM, we would have to take scores of CDs with us for those long, desolate spots where there is no radio signal (Texas is BIG). With XM, no matter where we travel, we have our favorite stations with us. Being that we travel, I would love to be able to go to most cities and have local weather and traffic reports available to me via XM. Sure, I can probably find them on the local FM stations, but their weather/traffic reports are not broadcast regularly as they are on XM. Plus, with FM radio, you have to sit through TOO MUCH talk radio before you get a weather/traffic report. I want to be able to get the information I need and then return to listening to MUSIC, not some DJ ranting and raving. That is why I abandoned FM radio, never to return. XM radio provides what I want in radio. As a consumer paying for a service, I should be the one deciding what I want to hear, not what NAB wants me to hear. I respectfully ask the FCC to reject petition 04-160.